

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO CINCPAC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5250

SECDEF

CINCPACREPPHIL

CG 13 TH AF

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5670

PERSONAL FOR ADMIRAL GAYLER, INFO REAR ADMIRAL SHELTON AND
GENERAL MORE FROM CHARGE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR

SUBJECT: MDB ANNUAL MEETING

1. PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
PHILIPPINE- U. S. MUTUAL DEFENSE BOARD (MDB) SCHEDULED FOR
JUNE 7 WILL FALL BETWEEN DEPARTURE OF AMBASSADOR BYROADE
AND ACCREDITATION OF AMBASSADOR- DESIGNATE SULLIVAN. THIS
WILL UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR PARTICIPATION IN
PHILIPPINE EYES AND THE PLEASURE WITH WHICH I WOULD WELCOME
A VISIT FROM YOU IF YOU CAN BE WITH US.

2. DESPITE YOUR SEVERAL TRIPS TO THE PHILIPPINES DURING
OPERATION HOMECOMING, THERE HAS BEEN RELATIVELY LITTLE
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY LEADERSHIP TO
MEET WITH YOU. THEY WOULD WELCOME, I KNOW, ANY COMMENTS
YOU WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO OFFER ON PROSPECTS IN THE INDO-
CHINA AREA AND ON THE OUTLOOK FOR YOUR COMMAND IN THE POST-
HOSTILITIES PERIOD. YOUR PRESENCE WOULD BE AN EVIDENCE OF
STEADINESS IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS AND OF U. S. MAINTENANCE
OF A PEACE- TIME SECURITY ROLE. ON THE U. S. SIDE, OUR
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NAVY AND AIR FORCE COMMANDERS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND OUR CHIEF JUSMAG GENERAL GRIMSLEY SHARE MY THOUGHT THAT AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET TOGETHER WOULD BE TIMELY.

3. YOUR STAFF WILL BE AWARE THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MEETING IS AS MUCH SYMBOLIC AS SUBSTANTIVE BUT I HAVE LITTLE DOUBT THAT GOP LEADERSHIP WOULD WISH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH YOU OUTSIDE THE MDB FRAMEWORK AS WELL. EVEN SO, IT IS STILL A WIDE OCEAN TO CROSS, AND I CAN APPRECIATE THAT YOU MAY NOT WISH TO MAKE THE VISIT UNLESS IT CAN BE COMBINED WITH A TRIP ONWARD TO OTHER AREAS. IF THERE ARE COMPETING DEMANDS ON YOUR TIME THAT PRECLUDE YOUR PARTICIPATION, OF A NATURE THAT COULD BE IDENTIFIED OR SUGGESTED TO THE FILIPINOS, I AM SURE THEY WOULD UNDERSTAND.

4. THE FOREGOING IS NOT INTENDED TO PREEMPT THE NORMAL CONSULTATION ON THIS QUESTION BETWEEN YOU AND ADMIRAL SHELTON, WHO IS AWARE I AM SENDING THIS MESSAGE. THE RECORD OF CINCPAC PARTICIPATION IN THESE ANNUAL MEETINGS IS, HOWEVER, UNEVEN, AND I DO WANT TO LET YOU KNOW WHAT WE THINK 1973 WOULD BE A GOOD YEAR FOR YOU TO BE HERE.

5. WARM REGARDS.
HAMILTON

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NMAFVVZCZ

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